

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 AID-05  
SES-02 SAA-01 /097 W  
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P R 211525Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3203  
INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
USMISSION USNATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: MASS, NL, IR  
SUBJECT: DUTCH FRIGATES FOR IRAN

REF: DUNNIGAN-WOODS TELECON AUGUST 16

1. THE AUGUST 21 ISSUE OF THE LEFTIST VOLKSKRANT CONTAINS AN ARTICLE DISCUSSING ALLEGED CONGRESSIONAL DISSATISFACTION WITH THE SALE OF DUTCH-CONSTRUCTED FRIGATES TO IRAN. THE ARTICLE, WRITTEN BY VOLKSKRANT'S WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT, LEADS OFF WITH A REFERRAL TO THE VISIT TO WASHINGTON THIS WEEK OF ALLERD STIKKER, HEAD OF THE RIJN-SCHELDE-VEROLME (RSV) SHIPBUILDING FIRM, WHO, IT CLAIMS, WILL DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF SUBORDERS FOR U.S. FIRMS. ACCORDING TO THE CORRESPONDENT, CONGRESSMAN FINDLEY HAS CRITICIZED THE SALE AT A TIME WHEN THE DOLLAR IS IN BAD SHAPE AND THE U.S. SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY NEEDS ORDERS. FINDLEY IS SAID TO BE ANNOYED THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ORIGINALLY DECLINED THE IRANIAN REQUEST FOR THE PURCHASE OF FRIGATES AND IS NOW CONCERNED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT U.S. FIRMS WILL BE UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE EVEN IN SUB-CONTRACTS. THE ARTICLE NOTES THE CEILING  
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OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS SALES AND ALLEGES THAT THE U.S. NAVY HAS TRIED TO RESCUE THE ORDER FOR THE U.S. SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRIES.

2. COMMENT: THE INFORMATION IN THE VOLKSKRANT ARTICLE HAS NOT YET BEEN PICKED UP BY OTHER PAPERS BUT WE CAN EXPECT CONTINUING ATTENTION TO THIS SUBJECT. WE KNOW FROM OUR

CONVERSATIONS WITH VARIOUS INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT SOURCES  
THAT RSV IS STILL NERVOUS ABOUT THE FRIGATE ORDER. WE  
UNDERSTAND FROM TELECON IN REFERENCE THAT ASSISTANT SDCRETARY  
VEST HAS REASSURED THE DUTCH THAT QUESTIONS OF INTEROPERA-  
BILITY OF SUB-CONTRACTED SYSTEMS WILL BE DECIDED ON PURELY  
TECHNICAL BASES. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE WHATEVER  
GUIDANCE THE DEPARTMENT CAN GIVE US TO RESPOND TO THIS OR  
SIMILAR ARTICLES. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE BEING KEPT  
CURRENTLY INFORMED ABOUT STIKKER'S DISCUSSIONS OR ANY OTHER  
MEETINGS OR CONVERSATIONS ON THE SUBJECT. JOSEPH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SHIPS, PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY SALES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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